

Message Text

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14

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5151

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, HU

SUBJ: HUNGARIAN TV ATTACK ON SECRETARY KISSINGER BY NAME
ON AFRICAN POLICY

REF: BUDAPEST 0165, STATE 15436

1. AMBASSADOR JUST RECEIVED LETTER FROM ACTING FOREIGN
MINISTER JOZSEF MARJAI WHICH READS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR LETTER OF 17 JANUARY,
1976, IN WHICH YOU REFERRED, AMONG OTHERS, TO OUR CONVERSA-
TION ABOUT QUESTIONS RELATED TO ANGOLA. I WOULD LIKE TO
REAFFIRM THAT OUR POSITION IN THIS QUESTION IS WHAT I
PROPOUNDED TO YOU.

FIRST OF ALL, I APPRECIATE YOUR OBSERVATION THAT
ACCORDING TO YOUR PERSONAL EXPERIENCE AND OPINION, TOO,
THE HUNGARIAN MEDIA DISCUSS GRAVE INTERNATIONAL ISSUES
IN A SOBER, REASONABLE MANNER.

IN YOUR LETTER, MR. AMBASSADOR, YOU MENTION A TELEVISION
COMMENTARY ON 16 JANUARY, WHICH DEALING WITH THE SITUATION
IN ANGOLA, QUOTED EXCERPTS FROM A DOCUMENT PUBLISHED
ABROAD. THE QUOTED DOCUMENT - ACCORDING TO FOREIGN
PRESS REPORTS - CONTAINED NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION NO. 39 OF FEBRUARY, 1970. I MYSELF DID NOT
SEE THE AFORESAID TELEVISION PROGRAM, BUT ACCORDING
TO THE INFORMATION I HAVE RECEIVED WHAT THE COMMENTATOR
SAID EXPRESSED UNEQUIVOCALLY HIS PERSONAL REFLECTIONS.
I DEEM IT POSSIBLE THAT THE SELECTION OF THE QUOTATION
AND THE WORDING USED WERE NOT FORTUNATE, BUT I DO NOT
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BELIEVE THAT THIS CAN BE CONSIDERED AS A REVERSION TO

RHETORIC REMINISCENT OF THE COLD WAR. ON THE OTHER HAND, I WISH TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THE COMMENTARY NEITHER IN ITS TONE, NOR IN ITS PHRASEOLOGY CAN BE REGARDED AS AN OFFICIAL HUNGARIAN MANIFESTATION.

AS FAR AS THE OFFICIAL HUNGARIAN POSITION PERTAINING TO HUNGARIAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS AS A WHOLE IS CONCERNED, OUR SINCERE EFFORTS AIMED AT THE FURTHER NORMALIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF OUR RELATIONS HAVE BEEN EXPOUNDED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS IN THE RECENT PERIOD, NAMELY BY MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS MR. FRIGYES PUJA TO SECRETARY OF STATE DR. HENRY KISSINGER AND BY COMPETENT HUNGARIAN LEADERS ON THE HIGHEST LEVEL PERSONALLY TO YOU, MR. AMBASSADOR, AND TO SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

PERMIT ME, MR. AMBASSADOR, TO EXPRESS MY FIRM HOPE THAT BOTH YOUR EXCELLENCY AND AMBASSADOR ESZTERGALYOS WILL BE ABLE TO CARRY OUT SUCCESSFULLY THE TASKS AIMED AT THE FULL NORMALIZATION AND FRUITFUL DEVELOPMENT OF THE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES. UNQUOTE.

2. COMMENT: DEPFONMINJANOS NAGY DREW MCAULIFFE ASIDE AT JANUARY 28 EMBASSY RECEPTION TO FLAG LATTER'S ATTENTION TO PHRASING OF PENULTIMATE PARAGRAPH, EXPLAINING THAT IN SOCIALIST WORLD "COMPETENT HUNGARIAN LEADERS ON THE HIGHEST LEVEL" MEANS FIRST SECRETARY KADAR. MCAULIFFE EXPRESSED THANKS FOR THIS HELPFUL INTERPRETATION WHICH SHOULD REMOVE ANY POSSIBLE MISAPPREHENSION IN WASHINGTON.

3. EMBASSY GRATEFUL FOR ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY LOWENSTEIN'S PROMPT AND SOLID SUPPORT (STATE 15436).
MCAULIFFE

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